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Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa **Gomes** (Portugal)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 53 (see A/61/422, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 24th, 25th and 31st to 34th meetings, on 2, 7 and 22 November and 1, 6 and 8 December 2006. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.24, 25 and 31-34).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.16, A/C.2/61/L.51 and A/C.2/61/L.16/Rev.1

2. At the 24th meeting, on 2 November, the representative of Japan, on behalf of Brazil, China, the Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Monaco, Mozambique, the Philippines, Singapore, Tajikistan and Thailand, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Year of Sanitation" (A/C.2/61/L.16), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in eight parts, under the symbol A/61/422 and Add.1-7.

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"*Recalling* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation'), as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,

"*Reaffirming* the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and reaffirmed in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Reaffirming* the need to assist developing countries' efforts to prepare integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans as part of their national development strategies and to provide access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation in accordance with the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including halving by 2015 the proportion of people who are unable to reach or afford safe drinking water and who do not have access to basic sanitation,

"*Reaffirming* the necessity to take into account sanitation in complementarity with water, in conjunction with the International Decade for Action, 'Water for Life', 2005-2015,

"*Appreciating* the ongoing work in the United Nations system and the work of other intergovernmental organizations on sanitation,

"*Appreciating also* the contribution made by the United Nations Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation and its work on the Hashimoto Action Plan, a compendium of water-related actions which relevant parties should take,

"*Deeply concerned* by the slow and insufficient progress in providing access to basic sanitation services, and conscious of the impact of the lack of sanitation on people's health, poverty reduction and economic and social development, and on the environment, in particular water resources,

"*Convinced* that progress can only be achieved through active commitment and action by all Member States, United Nations agencies, regional and international organizations, local authorities, civil society organizations and other stakeholders,

"1. *Decides* to declare 2008 as the International Year of Sanitation;

"2. *Requests* UN-Water to serve as the focal point for the Year and to develop, in a timely manner, relevant proposals on possible activities at all levels, including possible sources of funding;

"3. *Calls upon* Member States, international organizations and other stakeholders, including the private sector, to make voluntary contributions in accordance with the guidelines for international years and anniversaries;

"4. *Encourages* all Members States, the United Nations system and all other stakeholders to take advantage of the Year to increase awareness of the importance of sanitation and to promote action at the local, national and international levels, taking into account the relevant recommendations made in the Hashimoto Action Plan;

"5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

3. At its 32nd meeting, on 1 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "International Year of Sanitation 2008" (A/C.2/61/L.51), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Benedicto Fonseca Filho (Brazil), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.16.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Egypt, in his capacity as facilitator, announced that Barbados, Belarus, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, China, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Monaco, Mozambique, the Philippines, Singapore, Tajikistan and Thailand wished to sponsor the draft resolution. Subsequently, Angola, Austria, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Burundi, Cambodia, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Eritrea, the Gambia, Grenada, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Malawi, Mongolia, Morocco, Peru, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Tunisia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the same meeting, the Vice-Chairman, Benedicto Fonseca Filho (Brazil), announced that draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.51 would be reissued under the symbol A/C.2/61/L.16/Rev.1 to include the sponsors.

7. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.51, which was subsequently reissued under the symbol A/C.2/61/L.16/Rev.1 (see para. 24, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.21 and Rev.1

8. At the 24th meeting, on 2 November, the representative of Croatia, on behalf of Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Gabon, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, the Russian Federation and Singapore, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Year of Forests, 2011" (A/C.2/61/L.21), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Reaffirming* its commitment to the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of all Types of Forests and Agenda 21, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted at the Millennium Summit in 2000, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable

Development and the Plan of Implementation adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg in 2002,

"*Also reaffirming* its commitment to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and other relevant conventions dealing with the complexity of forest issues,

"*Recognizing* the role of forests and sustainable forest management in poverty eradication and achieving sustainable development, as recognized in the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Recalling* Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/49 of 28 July 2006,

"*Convinced* that concerted efforts should focus on raising public and political awareness on the sustainable management of all types of forests, as well as avoiding unsustainable exploitation and loss of forest habitats that have been under constant and severe pressure in the whole world,

"1. *Decides* to declare 2011 the International Year of Forests;

"2. *Decides also* that the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, will facilitate the implementation of the International Year of Forests, in collaboration with Governments and with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as well as the other institutions that compose the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations, in accordance with their mandates;

3. "*Calls upon* Governments, national, regional and international organizations, the major groups and the private sector to support activities related to the Year, inter alia, through voluntary contributions, and to link their relevant activities to the Year;

4. "*Encourages* voluntary partnerships among Member States, international organizations and major groups to facilitate and promote activities related to the Year at the local and national levels, including by creating national committees or designating focal points in their respective countries;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the state of preparations for the Year."

9. At its 33rd meeting, on 6 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "International Year of Forests, 2011" (A/C.2/61/L.21/Rev.1), submitted by the facilitator (Croatia) on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Georgia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Peru, Poland, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Thailand, the

former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine. Subsequently, Afghanistan, Angola, Bolivia, Burundi, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, the Gambia, Georgia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malawi, Moldova, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Palau, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

11. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.21/Rev.1 (see para. 24, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.23 and Rev.1

12. At the 25th meeting, on 7 November, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Oil slick on Lebanese shores" (A/C.2/61/L.23), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Reaffirming* the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972, especially principle 7, which requested States to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

"*Emphasizing* the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

"*Taking into account* the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, especially principle 16, which stipulates that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking also into account chapter 17 of Agenda 21,

"*Noting with great concern* the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the El-Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, causing an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline and extended beyond,

"*Noting with appreciation* the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Stockholm donor Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

"1. *Expresses its deep concern* over the adverse implications of the Israeli military attacks on the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

"2. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and consequently has serious implications for human health,

biodiversity and fisheries, and tourism, all three of which in turn have serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon,

"3. *Calls upon* the Government of Israel to assume its responsibility, in accordance with international law, to adequately compensate the Government of Lebanon, based on principle 16 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, which stipulates that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution;

"4. *Invites* Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to provide financial and technical assistance to the Government of Lebanon in supporting its efforts to clean up Lebanon's polluted shores and sea with a view to preserving its ecosystem;

"5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled 'Sustainable development'."

13. At its 31st meeting, on 22 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Oil slick on Lebanese shores" (A/C.2/61/L.23/Rev.1), submitted by South Africa on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, as well as Cyprus, France, Greece and Spain.

14. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

15. Also at the same meeting, the representative of South Africa orally revised the fifth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution by deleting the word "donor" before the word "Conference".

16. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.23/Rev.1, as orally revised, by a recorded vote of 138 to 5, with 1 abstention (see para. 24, draft resolution III). The voting was as follows:[1]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of

[1] The delegation of Belarus subsequently indicated that it had intended to vote in favour.

Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Australia, Canada, Israel, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining:

El Salvador

17. Before the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of the United States of America and Israel; after the vote a statement in explanation of vote was made by the representative of Canada (see A/C.2/61/SR.31).

D. Draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.27 and A/C.2/61/L.60

18. At its 25th meeting, on 7 November, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/61/L.27), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 of 20 December 2002 and 57/270 A and B of 20 December 2002 and 23 June 2003, respectively, and its resolutions 58/218 of 23 December 2003, 59/227 of 22 December 2004 and 60/193 of 22 December 2005,

"*Recalling also* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation'), as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,

"*Reaffirming* the commitments to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and reaffirmed in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Reaffirming* the decisions taken at the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

"*Reaffirming also* the continuing need to ensure a balance among economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

"*Reiterating* that the Commission is the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as a forum for consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, and calling on Governments to support the work of the Commission,

"*Reaffirming* that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

"*Recognizing* that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, particularly for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

"*Recognizing also* that good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development,

"*Recalling* that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation designated the Commission to serve as the focal point for discussion on partnerships that promote sustainable development, and contribute to the implementation of intergovernmental commitments in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

"*Looking forward* to the upcoming cycles of the work programme of the Commission as adopted at its eleventh session and their contributions to the further implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

"*Recalling* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session, endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2003/61 of 25 July 2003, that the Commission, at its policy sessions, to be held in April/May of the second year of the cycle, would take policy decisions on practical measures and options to expedite implementation in the selected thematic cluster of issues, taking account of the discussions of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting, the reports of the Secretary-General and other relevant inputs,

"*Recalling also* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session that the discussions of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting would be based on the outcome of the review session and reports of the Secretary-

General, as well as other relevant inputs, and that, on the basis of those discussions, the Chair would prepare a draft negotiating document for consideration at the policy session,

"*Noting with satisfaction* that the Commission on Sustainable Development at its fourteenth session undertook an in-depth evaluation of progress in implementing Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, focusing on the thematic cluster of issues on energy for sustainable development, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change, and identified best practices, constraints and obstacles in the process of implementation,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities undertaken in the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

"2. *Reiterates* that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation');

"3. *Calls upon* Governments, all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and other intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as major groups, to take action to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and encourages them to report on concrete progress in that regard;

"4. *Calls for* the effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and for the fulfilment of the provisions relating to the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

"5. *Encourages* Governments to participate at the appropriate level with representatives, including Ministers, from the relevant departments and organizations working in the areas of energy for sustainable development, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change, as well as finance, in the fifteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting;

"6. *Recalls* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session that activities during Commission meetings should provide for the balanced involvement of participants from all regions, as well as for gender balance;

"7. *Invites* donor countries to consider supporting the participation of experts from the developing countries in the areas of energy for sustainable

development, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change in the fifteenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting;

"8. *Reaffirms* the objective of strengthening the implementation of Agenda 21, including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, particularly for developing countries;

"9. *Also reaffirms the objective of* enhancing the participation and effective involvement of civil society and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of Agenda 21, as well as to promote transparency and broad public participation;

"10. *Further reaffirms* the need to promote corporate responsibility and accountability as envisaged by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

"11. *Reaffirms* the need to promote the development of microenterprises and small- and medium-sized enterprises, including by means of training, education and skill enhancement, with a special focus on agro-industry as a provider of livelihoods for rural communities;

"12. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to make arrangements to facilitate the balanced representation of major groups from developed and developing countries in the sessions of the Commission;

"13. *Also requests* the secretariat of the Commission to coordinate the participation of the relevant major groups in the discussions at the fifteenth session of the Commission, including the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting;

"14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the Commission at its fifteenth session on the state of implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, on the basis of appropriate inputs from all levels, to submit thematic reports on each of the four issues contained in the thematic clusters: energy for sustainable development, industrial development, air pollution atmosphere and climate change, to be treated in an equal and balanced manner taking into account their interlinkages, while addressing the cross-cutting issues including means of implementation identified by the Commission at its eleventh session;

"15. *Encourages* Governments and organizations at all levels, as well as major groups, including the scientific community and educators, to undertake results-oriented initiatives and activities to support the work of the Commission and to promote and facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including through voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives;

"16. *Also encourages* the Commission to provide further guidance on assessing the contribution of partnerships towards the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, taking into account lessons learned

and best practices, identifying and addressing problems, gaps and constraints, with the view of strengthening their effectiveness;

"17. *Invites* the Bureau of the fifteenth session of the Commission to take due account of the envisaged activities of the policy session and to set aside adequate time for negotiations on policy options and possible actions;

"18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled 'Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development', and requests the Secretary-General, at that session, to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

19. At its 34th meeting, on 8 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/61/L.60), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Benedicto Fonseca Filho (Brazil), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.27.

20. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

21. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in his capacity as facilitator, orally revised the draft resolution by deleting the words "in a balanced manner" after the words "thematic reports" in operative paragraph 16.

22. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.60, as orally revised (see para. 24, draft resolution IV).

23. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.60, draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.27 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

24. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
International Year of Sanitation 2008

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5] as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6]

Reaffirming the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[7]

Reaffirming the need to assist developing countries' efforts to prepare integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans as part of their national development strategies and to provide access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation in accordance with the Millennium Declaration[8] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including halving by 2015 the proportion of people who are unable to reach or afford safe drinking water and who do not have access to basic sanitation,

Also reaffirming the necessity to take into account sanitation in complementarity with water, in conjunction with the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015,

Appreciating the ongoing work in the United Nations system and the work of other intergovernmental organizations on sanitation,

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] See resolution 60/1.

[8] See resolution 55/2.

Taking note with appreciation of the contribution made by the United Nations Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation and its work on the Hashimoto Action Plan, a compendium of water-related actions which relevant actors should consider, as appropriate,

Deeply concerned by the slow and insufficient progress in providing access to basic sanitation services, and conscious of the impact of the lack of sanitation on people's health, poverty reduction and economic and social development, and on the environment, in particular water resources,

Convinced that progress can be achieved through active commitment and action by all States, including at the national and local levels, as well as United Nations agencies, regional and international organizations, civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders,

1. *Decides* to declare 2008 the International Year of Sanitation;

2. *Requests* the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to serve as the focal point for the Year and to develop, in a timely manner, relevant proposals on possible activities at all levels, including possible sources of funding;

3. *Calls upon* States as well as subregional, regional and international organizations and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society, to make voluntary contributions;

4. *Encourages* all States, as well as the United Nations system and all other relevant stakeholders, to take advantage of the Year to increase awareness of the importance of sanitation and to promote action at all levels, taking into account, inter alia, the policy recommendations adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its thirteenth session as well as, where appropriate, the relevant recommendations made in the Hashimoto Action Plan;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution II
International Year of Forests, 2011

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of all Types of Forests[1] and Agenda 21,[2] adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the United Nations Millennium Declaration[3] adopted at the Millennium Summit in 2000, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation[5] adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg in 2002,

Recalling the Convention on Biological Diversity,[6] the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[7] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[8] and other relevant conventions dealing with the complexity of forest issues,

Recognizing that forests and sustainable forest management can contribute significantly to sustainable development, poverty eradication and the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 2006/230 of 24 July 2006,

Emphasizing the need for sustainable management of all types of forests, including fragile forest ecosystems,

Convinced that concerted efforts should focus on raising awareness at all levels to strengthen the sustainable management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests for the benefit of current and future generations,

1. *Decides* to declare 2011 the International Year of Forests;

2. *Requests* the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, to serve as the focal point for the implementation of the International Year of Forests, in collaboration with Governments, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and international, regional and subregional organizations and processes as well as relevant major groups;

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex III.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[7] Ibid., vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[8] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

3. *Invites*, in particular, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as the Chair of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, within its mandate, to support the implementation of the International Year of Forests;

4. *Calls upon* Governments, relevant regional and international organizations, and major groups to support activities related to the Year, inter alia, through voluntary contributions, and to link their relevant activities to the Year;

5. *Encourages* voluntary partnerships among Member States, international organizations and major groups to facilitate and promote activities related to the Year at the local and national levels, including by creating national committees or designating focal points in their respective countries;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the state of preparations for the Year.

Draft resolution III
Oil slick on Lebanese shores

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972, especially principle 7,[1] which requested States to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

Emphasizing the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

Taking into account the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2] especially principle 16, which stipulates that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking also into account chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[3]

Noting with great concern the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the El-Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, causing an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline and extended beyond,

Noting with appreciation the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

1. *Expresses its deep concern* over the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese El-Jiyeh electric power plant for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

2. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and consequently has serious implications for human health, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, all four of which in turn have serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon;

3. *Calls upon* the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment;

4. *Encourages* Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to provide financial and technical assistance to the Government of Lebanon in supporting its efforts to clean up the polluted shores and sea of Lebanon with a view to preserving its ecosystem;

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[1] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one, chap. I.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

Draft resolution IV
Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 of 20 December 2002 and 57/270 A and B of 20 December 2002 and 23 June 2003, respectively, and its resolutions 58/218 of 23 December 2003, 59/227 of 22 December 2004 and 60/193 of 22 December 2005,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5] as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6]

Reaffirming the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[7]

Reaffirming the decisions taken at the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

Reiterating that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, and reaffirming the continuing need to ensure a balance among economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] See resolution 60/1.

Recognizing that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[8]

Recognizing also that good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development,

Recalling that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation designated the Commission to serve as the focal point for discussion on partnerships that promote sustainable development and contribute to the implementation of intergovernmental commitments in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

Recalling also the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session[9] that the Commission, during the review year, should discuss the contribution of partnerships towards supporting the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation with a view to sharing lessons learned and best practices, identifying and addressing problems, gaps and constraints, and providing further guidance, including on reporting, during policy years, as necessary,

Looking forward to the upcoming cycles of the work programme of the Commission as adopted at its eleventh session[10] and their contributions to the further implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Recalling the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session,[11] endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2003/61 of 25 July 2003, that the Commission, at its policy sessions, to be held in April/May of the second year of the cycle, would take policy decisions on practical measures and options to expedite implementation in the selected thematic cluster of issues, taking account of the discussions of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting, the reports of the Secretary-General and other relevant inputs,

Recalling also the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session[12] that the discussions of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting would be based on the outcome of the review session and reports of the Secretary-General, as well as other relevant inputs, and that, on the basis of those discussions, the Chair would prepare a draft negotiating document for consideration at the policy session,

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[8] See resolution 55/2.

[9] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 3 (a).

[10] Ibid., draft resolution I.

[11] Ibid., para. 2 (b).

[12] Ibid., para. 2 (g).

Recognizing the importance of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting to discuss policy options and possible actions to address the constraints and obstacles in the process of implementation identified during the review year,

Noting with satisfaction that the Commission at its fourteenth session undertook an in-depth evaluation of progress in implementing Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, focusing on the thematic cluster of issues on energy for sustainable development, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change, and identified best practices, constraints and obstacles in the process of implementation,[13]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities undertaken in the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;[14]

2. *Reiterates* that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and those contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation");[5]

3. *Calls upon* Governments, all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and other intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as major groups, to take action to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and encourages them to report on concrete progress in that regard;

4. *Calls for* the effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and for the fulfilment of the provisions relating to the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Commission on Sustainable Development is the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as a forum for the consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, and calls upon Governments to support the work of the Commission;

6. *Encourages* Governments to participate at the appropriate level with representatives, including ministers, from the relevant departments and organizations working in the areas of energy for sustainable development, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change, as well as finance, in the fifteenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting;

[13] Ibid., *2006, Supplement No. 9* (E/2006/29), chap. II.
[14] A/61/258.

7. *Recalls* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session[15] that activities during Commission meetings should provide for the balanced involvement of participants from all regions, as well as for gender balance;

8. *Invites* donor countries to consider supporting the participation of representatives from the developing countries in the areas of energy for sustainable development, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change in the fifteenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting;

9. *Reaffirms* the objective of strengthening the implementation of Agenda 21,[7] including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, in particular for developing countries;

10. *Also reaffirms* the objective of enhancing the participation and effective involvement of civil society and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of Agenda 21, as well as promoting transparency and broad public participation;

11. *Further reaffirms* the need to promote corporate responsibility and accountability as envisaged by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

12. *Reaffirms* the need to promote the development of microenterprises and small- and medium-sized enterprises, including by means of training, education and skill enhancement, with a special focus on agro-industry as a provider of livelihoods for rural communities;

13. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to make arrangements to facilitate the balanced representation of major groups from developed and developing countries in the sessions of the Commission;

14. *Also requests* the secretariat of the Commission to coordinate the participation of the relevant major groups, in the discussions at the fifteenth session of the Commission, including the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting;

15. *Reiterates* its invitation to the relevant United Nations agencies, programmes and funds, the Global Environmental Facility and international and regional financial and trade institutions, within their mandates, to participate actively in the work of the Commission;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the Commission at its fifteenth session, on the basis of appropriate inputs from all levels, to submit thematic reports on each of the four issues contained in the thematic cluster of issues on energy for sustainable development, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change, taking into account their interlinkages, while addressing the cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation identified by the Commission at its eleventh session and taking into account also the relevant provisions of paragraphs 10, 14 and 15 of draft resolution I adopted by the Commission at its eleventh session;[16]

17. *Encourages* Governments and organizations at all levels, as well as major groups, including the scientific community and educators, to undertake results-oriented initiatives and activities to support the work of the Commission and to

[15] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 2 (j).

[16] Ibid., chap. I, sect. A.

promote and facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[3] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including through voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives;

18. *Underlines* the importance of setting aside adequate time for all envisaged activities in the policy session, including for negotiations on policy options and possible actions, at the fifteenth session of the Commission, and in this regard notes the importance of having all required documents, including the Chair's draft negotiating document, made available for consideration prior to the beginning of the session;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development", and requests the Secretary-General, at that session, to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution.